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17 November 1965

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, FE Division**

**SUBJECT : Briefing of the DCI for the President's  
Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board  
Meeting**

1. The Clifford memorandum appears to me in substance to be asking for the following:

a. The DCI's assessment on U. S. intelligence aimed against China, North Vietnam and the Viet Cong which relates to the U. S. military effort in Vietnam;

b. Identification of problems involved in the intelligence effort which supports U. S. military activity in Vietnam;

c. A statement of what is being done to strengthen intelligence programs and also covert action operations in the area generally.

2. It seems to me that we have said about all we need to say about the effort directed against China in the Director's letter to Clifford of 5 November except as regards covert action programs

a. A paper which describes U. S. intelligence coverage of China, North Vietnam and the Viet Cong for the purpose of supporting current U. S. military operations. This paper should include SIGINT operations and overhead reconnaissance as well as agent operations, road watches, etc. It would be in two parts, the first of which would constitute a description of current activities and the second would identify problems which impede the successful prosecution of this intelligence effort.

b. A paper which describes covert action operations in being or contemplated against the area as a whole.

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25X1 3. The covert action paper ("b" above) seems to me relatively easy and is, I should think, clearly the responsibility of the Division. The other paper seems to me a very difficult paper. One possibility is to have the Division write a draft which comprehends as much of the intelligence effort as it can, and let [ ] and me add whatever seems appropriate concerning overhead and SIGINT activities.

4. Obviously we are operating under very tight time limitations (as usual). Please let me have your views.

/s/ John A. Bross

JOHN A. BROSS  
D/DCI/NIPE

cc: DDCI  
DD/I  
DD/P

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Mr. de Silva

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